<u>Amendments to the Claims</u>:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims</u>:

1-11   (Cancelled)

12.   (New)   A method for controlling access to applications which are accessible via a network that includes at least one application and a plurality of operator control units by which a user can seek access to said at least one application, said method comprising:

providing an access principle for controlling access to each of said at least one application; and

controlling access to each of said at least one application according to the access principle provided therefore;

wherein, access principles are assigned to each of said at least one application on an application specific basis.

13.   (New)   The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein a "last wins" access principle is provided for audio and video applications.

14.   (New)   The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein a "parallel in terms of switching" access principle is provided for a particular application if

simultaneous use at the plurality of operator control units is impermissible for that particular application due to technical restrictions.

15. (New)   The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said technical restriction comprises one of:

the particular application is not able to access the same resource simultaneously with access by other applications with different requests because said resource is not accessible by more than one application at a time; and

the application cannot simultaneously provide lists with different selection possibilities on a plurality of screens.

16. (New)   The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said at least one application comprises a navigation system.

17. (New)   The method as claimed in one of claim 16, wherein access to an application is carried out from a second operator control unit according to a "superuser" principle.

18. (New)   The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein:

said at least one control unit comprises at least first and second control units; and

a visual or audible warning message is output by the second operator control unit if operation of the application at the first operator control unit could be disrupted by access to the application from the second operator control unit.

19.   (New)   The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein access operation to the application by the second operator control unit is blocked until the warning message is acknowledged via the first.

20.   (New)   A computer product which includes program code for a communications system wherein the program code includes steps to carry out a method for controlling access to applications which are accessible via a network that includes at least one application and a plurality of operator control units by which a user can seek access to said at least one application, wherein said method comprises:

providing an access principle for controlling access to each of said at least one application; and

controlling access to each of said at least one application according to the access principle provided therefore;

wherein, access principles are assigned to each of said at least one application on an application specific basis.

21.   (New)   A computer readable medium encoded with a computer program for causing a computer to perform steps to carry out a method for controlling access to applications which are accessible via a network that includes at least one application and a plurality of operator control units by which a user can seek access to said at least one application, wherein said method comprises:

providing an access principle for controlling access to each of said at least one application; and

controlling access to each of said at least one application according to the access principle provided therefore;

wherein, access principles are assigned to each of said at least one application on an application specific basis.

22.   (New)   A communications system, for a motor vehicle, comprising:

an arithmetic unit for controlling applications; and

a plurality of operator control units for providing the applications for various users of the operator control units at different locations within a vehicle;

wherein the arithmetic unit is programmed to carry out the method as claimed in claim 1.